

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19

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INFO USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

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CINCLANT

USDELMC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4540

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-80

TAGS: MCAP NATO

SUBJECT: DEFINITIONS OF "ASSIGNED" AND "EARMARKED FOR ASSIGNMENT"
FORCES

REF: USDEL 719/74 DTG 191715Z AUG 74 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE COMMENTS ON IS PROPOSAL FOR
INCREASING PROPORTION OF ASSIGNED RELATIVE TO EARMARKED FORCES
COMMITTED TO NATO . ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON VIEWS PRIOR TO
DRC CONSIDERATION TNETATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MID SEPTEMBER. END
SUMMARY.

1. ASYG HUMPHREYS HAS SENT A LETTER TO DIRECTOR, IMS, WHICH
PROPOSES ALTERATIONS TO CURRENT DEFINITIONS OF ASSIGNED AND
EARMARKED FORCES THAT WOULD FACILITATE A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN
PROPORTION OF ASSIGNED VICE EARMARKED NATOFORCES (DRC/N(74)20,
POUCHED). IS PROPOSAL REFLECTS LONG STANDING CONCERN (SHARED BY
SACEUR) OVER LIMITATIONS ON PEACETIME MNC AUTHORITY TO PREPARE
NATO-COMMITTED FORCES FOR WAR. SACEURS AUTHORITY IN THIS AREA
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(ORIGINALLY DEFINED IN COUNCIL RESOLUTION C-M(54)85)
INCLUDES HIGHER TRAINING FOR ASSIGNED BUT NOT REPEAT NOT EARMARKED
FORCES. DURING THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, ALLIES HAVE TRANSFERRED
INCREASING PORTIONS OF THEIR NATO COMMITTED FORCES FROM ASSIGNED TO

EARMARKED STATUS. FOR EXAMPLE, NATIONAL RESPONSES TO DPQ INDICATE THAT ALL FRG, DUTCH, DANISH, NORWEGIAN, AND US GROUND COMBAT FORCES COMMITTED TO NATO ARE IN EARMARKED STATUS. IS INFORMALLY ESTIMATES THAT NEARLY 90 PCT OF ALL NATO COMMITTED FORCES IN CENTRAL REGION WILL BE IN EARMARKED STATUS BY END 1975.

2. AS SUGGESTED IN IS PROPOSAL, A MAJOR REASON FOR SHIFT TO EARMARKED STATUS IS AMBIGUOUS NATURE OF EXISTING CRITERIA FOR ASSIGNED FORCES WHICH MAY IMPLY MORE PEACETIME OPERATIONAL CONTROL BY MNC'S THAN ACTUALLY EXISTS. IS PROPOSAL SEEKS TO AVOID THIS PROBLEM BY REVISING MC57/3 TO INCLUDE FOUR CATEGORIES OF FORCES. FIRST CATEGORY(FORCES UNDER NATO COMMAND) INCLUDES THOSE FORCES PLACED UNDER PEACETIME OPERATIONAL COMMAND OR CONTROL OF MNCS; E.G., THE AMF AND SPECIFIED AIR DEFENSE UNITS. SECOND CATEGORY(NATO ASSIGNED FORCES) INCLUDES NATIONAL FORCES PLACED UNDER PEACETIME AUTHORITY OF A NATO COMMANDER (AS DEFINED IN APPROPRIATE MNC TERMS OF REFERENCE) WHICH WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO HIS OPERATIONAL COMMAND ONLY AFTER A SPECIFIED STAGE IN THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM. IS PROPOSAL ALSO INCLUDES A THIRD CATEGORY (NATO -EARMARKED FORCES) FOR FORCES PLACED UNDER A NATO COMMANDER SUBJECT TO CERTAIN QUALIFICATIONS, AND A FOURTH CATEGORY(OTHER FORCES FOR NATO) WHICH INCLUDES NON COMMITTED FORCES THAT MIGHT IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES BE PLACED UNDER OPERATIONAL COMMAND OR CONTROL OF A NATO COMMANDER.

3. MISSION UNDERSTANDS AND SUPPORTS WASHINGTON DESIRE TO MAINTAIN MAXIMUM COMMAND AND CONTROL FLEXIBILITY OVER US FORCES. HOWEVER, IS PROPOSAL APPEARS TO ALLOW TRANSFER OF US FORCES IN EUROPE FROM CURRENT EARMARKED STATUS TO REVISED NATO ASSIGNED STATUS WITH NO PRACTICAL LOSS OF SUCH FLEXIBILITY. SUCH TRANSFER WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT ALTER EXISTING PROCEDURES FOR CHOPPING FORCES TO MNC OPERATIONAL COMMAND AND CONTROL DURING APPROPRIATE STAGES OF ALERT. IF US TRANSFERRED CURRENT EARMARKED FORCES STATIONED IN ACE TO REVISED NATO ASSIGNED STATUS, SACEUR (GENERAL GOODPASTER) WOULD GAIN AUTHORITY TO INSPECT THESE FORCES AND CONTROL THEIR HIGHER TRAINING. UNDER EXISTING PRACTICE, USCINCEUR(GENERAL GOODPASTER) ALREADY CONDUCTS INSPECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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US EARMARKED FORCES STATIONED IN ACE. ASSUMING OTHER NATIONS FOLLOWED US LEAD, SACEUR (AND OTHER MNCS) WOULD REGAIN LEGAL AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT INSPECTIONS AND HIGHER TRAINING ESSENTIAL TO AN INTEGRATED, COMBAT READY ALLIANCE DEFENSE. MISSION THEREFORE RECOMMENDS WASHINGTON FAVORABLY CONSIDER IS PROPOSAL. RUMSFELD

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